THE FIGVRE of THREE:

OR,

A Patterne of good COVNSELL.

Gathered for the Delight of the well disposed.

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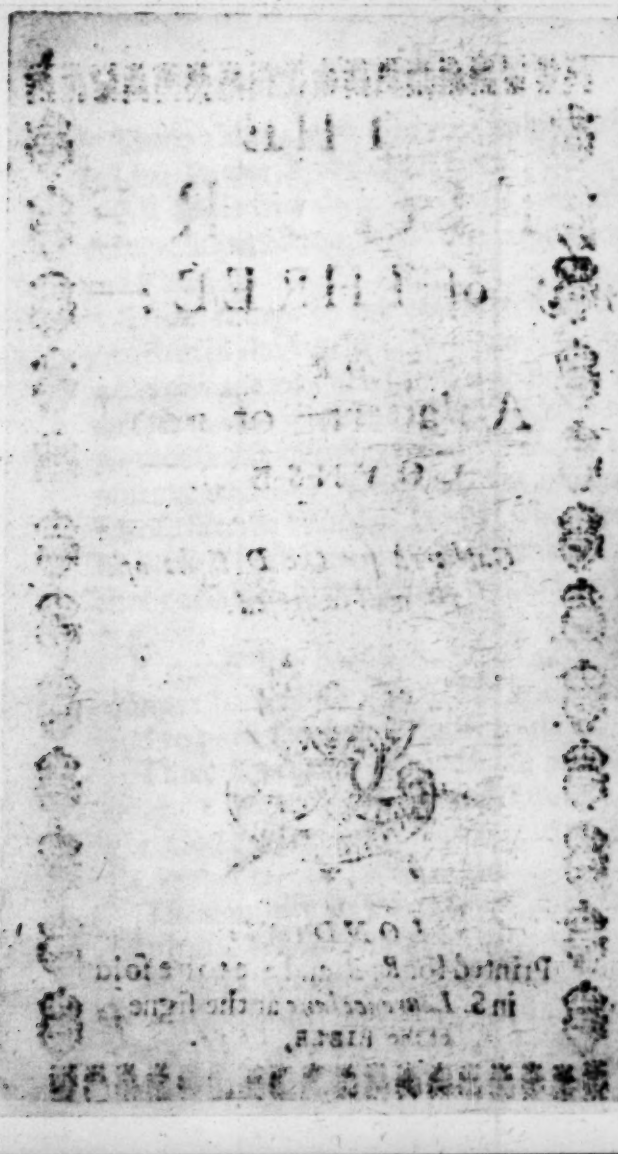

THE FIGVRE OF THREE.

OR, A PATTERNE OF GOOD COVNSELL.

HE Knowledge of God is three-fold: Generall, Speciall, and Singular. Generall, as the Philosophers: Speciall, as of the Christians: and Singular, as of them that are blessed.

The sweetnesse of this Name IESVS consists in three things: It is honey to the mouth, Melodie to the Eare, and joy to the Heart.

All men are busied about one of these three things: Honesty, Profit, or Pleasure.

Three abominable sayings of all Epicures: there is no pleasure after death; a vengeance on him that careth for to morrow: neither feare the latter day, nor wish for it.

Three things doe study to vnite with Pride: Power, Nobility, Riches.

All Idols had their originall of three things, Superstition, wicked Imagination and Flattery.

Three things to bee considered in the creation of the world: Who made it, by what he made it, wherefore he made it. If wee aske who made it? Why, there is no Author more excellent than God. If by what he made it? Why, no Art of more force, then the Word of God. If wherefore he made it? Why, no cause better than this: that good should be created of God, who is good.

A good life consisteth [illegible] things: to eschew euill, to doe goodnesse and to persevere in godlinesse to the end.

Three benefits which we haue receiue ought to moue vs daily and hourely t giv. God great thankes: our Creation, ou Redemption, our Justification.

Three guides to Poverty: Gluttonie Sloth and Whoredome.

Hope is very good for three causes: i is a remedy in adversity, wiping tear from the eyes; for Hope onely doth s staine them whom injurious Fortune do

moſt oppreſſe: It nouriſheth life, promiſing better ſucceſſe to morrow: It leaveth not a man at his death, but exalteth his heart unto immortality.

Three things not any way to be tolerated: a long tongue in a Fooles head, a looſe life in a godly Profeſſor, a proud Heart and a beggers purſe.

Three things be never ſilent where they be: Money in the purſe, Wantonneſſe in the heart, Griefe in ſickneſſe.

Three ſorts of men are evermore very ſlothfull: they that ſit long at Dinner, they that lye long in Bed when they ſhould riſe to their labour; and they that come to the Church when the doores are ſhut up.

Three things which ſeldome can bee ſeene: a Broker that never made a lye, a Collier which never was blacke, and two Hils neere together without a valley.

A man is moſt grieved at three things eſpecially: To ſee the Adverſities of his Children, to heare of the loſſe of his goods, and to ſee the proſperity of his heavieſt enemies.

We ſhould not be carefull nor curious in three things: of good order in another

mens house, of the divine gouernaunce of the Almighty, nor in the Counsels of great Estates.

Three causes why men loue one another. One loueth, because he is loued; another, because he is aduanced to honor: the third, for that he expects a benefit from the hand of him whom he so loueth.

Three proud creatures: a Knaue sitting in a Chaire, a queane riding in a Chariot, a ramping louse in a scabbed Head.

Three sorts of men are for the most part extreme babblers: Barbers, Bath-keepers, and Victuallers: and the reason is this, because they deale with Mariners, Souldiers, and many other: calling themselues trauellers, and are indeed extreame vagrant fellowes, reciting many strange tales; whereby being as it were infected with their very talke, they become in the end great Babblers.

Three things necessary for the increase of Corne: good Seed, good ground, and Gods blessing.

Three things in the night which doe importune us to sleepe: Darkenesse, (for men desirous to sleepe, doe seeke for the darkest places,) Cold, (for in winter, men sleepe

more soundly then in Summer; and those that are cold of complexion, will sleepe longer than others that are not.) Moysture, for (according to all Philosophy) moist vapours arise from the Stomacke, ascend up into the braine, and provoke sleepe.

Three things are sayd to be very bitter: Gall, Griefe and Death.

Three things which Women can doe all at once: Spin, Weepe and Prattle.

Three things which for the uncertainty of that which may happen, men cannot safely give any counsell to undertake them: that is, a Wife, to travell by Sea, to follow the Warres.

Hope doth comfort three sorts of men (of whom all others are past hope:) him whom the Physicians have given over; him that is bound and cast into a deepe dungeon; and him that hath suffered shipwracke, being tossed with waves, yet hope perswades to cast his armes abroad.

Three things chiefly to be remembred: Gods benefits, whereby we are ever to give thankes; our sins, that we may be sorry for them; and our death, that we may be carefull to live well.

Three things manifest Gods Judgements: Corporall punishment, the sting of an evill Conscience, the torments of Hell-fire.

There bee three things that the bodie is most addicted unto, and as it were coveteth: Good cheare, Sleepe, and Merry or pleasant talke and company.

Also there be three outward properties of the Persons in the Trinity: the Father sends, and is not sent: the Sonne is sent to be made a sacrifice: and the Holy Ghost is sent to sanctifie our mindes.

There be also in our Saviour Jesus Christ three things worthily to be wondred at: the examples of his life, whereby he edified the envious: his words of wisedome, whereby hee instructed the ignorant: and the marvels of his glory, whereby he did convert the unbeleevers.

Gold (as the Learned write thereof) hath three outragious properties: for first it is the Snare for our soules; the hooke of Death, and the Bait of sinne.

It is great gaine and also wonderfull pleasure for these three sorts of men to tell lyes: Poets, Painters, and Astronomers.

All men should suffer these three evils with

with patience; necessary evils, such as can neither be altered, amended, nor hindered: Accidentall evils, which doth happened unto us by our own evill courses: and such evils as we have justly deserved.

As after men behold a Rainebow, they are put in mind of three speciall things: of the anger of God, when he destroyed the world with water, whereof the blew colour is a witnesse: of the mercy of God, who will never use that punishment againe: of the latter judgement and burning of the world with fire, and that doth the rednesse fiery colour thereof represent.

Three things make most men very sorrowfull: that he must needes die, that he knowes not the time or day when, and that after death, he knowes not where he shall bee.

Three things there be that are sayd to undoe a man: to deferre and prolong his businesse; to meddle with other mens matters; to reject the good Counsell of his friend.

Three things there be very necessary for a sort of men called Fencers: a quicke eye, a strong Arme, and a stout Heart.

All those which are angrie make but

small account of three speciall things which should be highly esteemed: Old age, which ought to be reverenced: Affinity in kindred, and benefits past.

Humility is a vertue which doth chiefly comprehend three things: First, it acknowledgeth her owne uncleanneſſe and infirmity, and doth feare God: Shee doth not desire matters above her vocation, but keepeth her ſelfe within her bounds: Shee doth not deſpiſe others which are Gods inſtruments, but acknowledgeth Gods gift in them, knowing all labour is vaine, unleſſe God proſper it.

In three things conſiſteth the whole courſe of mans life: to be borne weeping, to live laughing, to die ſorrowfull and ſighing.

Three things make a man willing to brooke a ſervile life: Gaine, Love, and Covetouſneſſe.

Three things doe moſt of all haſten Death: Sorrow, Solitarineſſe, and Deſperation.

There be alſo three kindes of gueſts which are the firſt at a banqnet: Flies, dogs and Flatterers.

Three ſmall Beaſts are ſaid to bee moſt

full of wisedome: the Bee, the Emmet, the Spider.

Three things there be, that meane a man beguile: Essex miles, Kentish stiles, and Norfolke wiles.

Three things are required, that are as necessary to a man and his wife: Love inwardly in the heart; Concord outwardly in dwelling together peaceably; both an outward and inward agreement to doe good workes.

There are three sorts of Ignorance: Some is good, when we are ignorant of evill: some is evill, when we are ignorant of good: some is indifferent, which is neither good nor evill.

There be three things that are very proper to Beauty: First, it is fraile, and soone fadeth; many vices of the minde are covered with the vaile of Beauty: it bringeth commoditie to few, but unto many destruction.

Three things there are that make a Common-wealth happy: that is, a wise Prince, a wise Magistrate, and an upright Judge.

Three commodities there are that follow Beauty: it winneth the praise:

It chanceth to sour, it getteth praise.

Three things there are necessary in a Player: an impudent face, a stedfast colour, a changing voyce.

Three things are always very good cheape: Earthen Vessels and Lies.

There are three things especially that being in a house, maides will out of the house: an angrie Mistresse, Smoake, and a broken or rotten dish.

There are likewise three sorts of people worthy to be loved: A loving Wife, a faithfull friend, and a true servant.

There was a Plough-man that gave these three Lessons unto his Sonne: To be in Lent holy, in Harvest painefull, and at Christmasse merrie.

Three things there are that doe make Patience to suffer: Anything: God and Godlinesse, Faith and Religion, Vertue and Law.

There be three notable Ornaments belonging to the house of a Minister: an open gate, a godly Household or Family, and a good Library.

Truth is stronger than three strong things: strong Wine, a Woman, or a mighty King.

The

The Figure of Three.

The country life is mistresse of three things: Frugality, Diligence, and Justice.

Three things are most necessary to the maintenance of our bodies; Sufficiency of meate to appease the rage of hunger, Clothing to cover the body, and expell away cold: Sleepe, which doth refresh the wearied limbes with labour.

Three Mothers there are that bring forth three evill Daughters: Truth the Mother, Hatred the Daughter: Riches the Mother, Envie the Daughter: Familiarity the Mother, and Contempt the Daughter.

Three sorts of people worthy to be hated: A malicious VVoman, a faithlesse Friend, and a proud Beggar.

There bee three things that can by no meanes be hidden: A VVhore in a chamber, a Spindle in a Sacke, Straw in the Shooes.

An Epitaph alwayes to be remembred of all mankind, when he doth behold the picture of Death in any place: O man thou beholdest what I am; thou knowest I have beene as thou art: then thinke with thy selfe what thou shalt be.

Three things make a man weary of his

houſe, and oftentimes of his life: Smoake, Raine, and a curſt and dogged wife.

Three things require to bee attendant in a Chirurgion: a Hawkes eye, a Lyons heart, and a Ladies hand.

The invention of three things are exceeding wonderfull: the Printing of Bookes, the invention of Guns and Gunpowder, and the making of glaſſes.

Three properties that belong to Epicures: they neither feare nor reverence God, and eſteeme all godlineſſe a mockery: they offer ſacrifice unto their guts, other God they know not: neither griefe nor feare can compell them to be carefull for the time to come, but for the preſent.

A Traveller hath theſe three points of wiſdome: To chooſe a faire way and a good horſe, a warme chamber for to lodge in, and an honeſt man for his Hoſt.

Three principall deſires amongſt friends: to have and enjoy wealth, to poſſeſſe honour: not to ſuffer neceſſity.

Three things worthy of conſideration in a Witneſſe: the nature, the condition, the life. The nature, that a witneſſe be a man, and not a woman; for women be divers and inconſtant in their reports: that he be

free, and not a bond-slaue, for he will conceale a truth for feare of his masters displeasure: that hee be innocent, not infamous; for justice will not accompany wicked men.

Three things are good and necessary for every man: To understand well, to speake better, to doe best of all.

There be three sorts of people that will never be good: Old men without government, Young men without reverence, Maides without modesty.

Three neuer failing weapons, wherewith a man may expell the diuell: the Word of God, Faith in Christ Iesus, fernent prayer.

Three things chiefly to be remembred Gods benefits that we may render thankes: our sins, that we may be sorry for them; our death, that we may be carefull to live well.

Three things are called excellent Governours; God governeth the world, the mind governeth the soule, wisedome doth rule and governe the felicity of this life.

Three things, not to be trusted in: the Heeles of a wilde Horse, the teeth of a mad Dog, the Vowes of a strumper.

Three things which are sayd to whet the

eye-sight: to view Fountaines of water, to looke upon greene things, to behold a mans face in a looking-glasse.

Three things, though they bee very good, yet they please not every body: Raine, though it doe much good to the earth: Vpright government: the labours of Learned men.

There be three causes that make men to speake loud: First, when they are farre off unto whom they would speake, when they talke to one that is deafe, when they are inraged with anger.

Three things which our Ancestours have ever abhorred: a reconciled Enemy, meate twise sodden, and a woman with a Beard.

Women desire three things principally: to be gorgeously apparelled, to be esteemed, and to goe where they list.

God made three places for three severall purposes: Heaven for the good, Hell for the wicked, Earth for both.

Beliefe is of three sorts: to beleeve that there is a God, is of knowledge: to beleeve God is to consent to his truth: to beleeve in God, is to have true confidence in his mercy.

Whosoever will retaine a Lawyer, and

lawfully seeke his owne right, must be furnished with these three pockets: In the first pocket hee must have his Declaration and Certificate, wherewith hee may shew his Right: in the second pocket he must have store of Red-ruddockes: in the third pocket hee must have patience, although the Law proceed against him.

Three things will not prove well without beating: a Walnut-tree, an Asse, and a Woman.

Three trades of life that may travell without Pasports: Pedlers, Tinkers, and Minstrels.

Three things bite sore: an old Dog, an hungry Flye, and an unconscionable Vsurer.

The Holy Ghost doth governe three things in every godly person: the mind, the heart, and the wil: it doth inlighten the minde with the light of the holy Word, it doth kindle the heart, that it may conceive what it is that best pleaseth God: It doth move the will, to be willing to doe whatsoever God willeth in his VVord.

The Holy Ghost doth confirme three things in us: Faith, Hope and Love.

The proud Heart is destitute of three

good things: It is hardned, and wanteth Godlineſſe; it is void of Contrition, it is dry, wanting the deaw of ſpirituall grace.

A guilty Conſcience worketh in man three miracles: It maketh the heaven and the earth, though never ſo ſpatious, to be narrower than a mouſe hole: It cauſeth even the ſtrongeſt heart to be afraid at the wagging of every leafe: It ſtirreth up it ſelfe like a thouſand witneſſes.

A man muſt keepe his minde from theſe three things: Anger, becauſe it fretteth; Hatred, becauſe it conſumeth; Glory, becauſe it puffeth up with pride.

The Judge muſt have reſpect unto three things; the law, the guilty, and the people.

A gentle mind is of three ſorts; milde to ſuffer, ready to forgive, willing to helpe.

A Wiſe man repenteth theſe three things; That he hath gone by Sea when he might have gone by land, that he hath revealed his ſecrets; that he hath let one day paſſe, wherein he hath not done ſome good and vertuous thing.

Three ſorts of women to be forſaken; an old woman wanton, a Maide full of Sleepe, and a wife full of words.

Three things to be pitied; a houſe full of

of motherleſſe children, an honeſt man wrongfully accuſed, an old man left comfortleſſe.

Three kind of people be much ſpitedat, but daily proſper: that is, the informing Lawyer, the uſuring Broker, and the mercileſſe Sergeant.

Three kinde of people fill Cities and Townes full of Vanity: that is the Poet, the Player, and the Pander.

Three kind of people be ſeldome without company: that is the Vſurer, without riotous gentlemen, the faire woman without wanton cuſtomers, and the liberall man without ſhameleſſe beggers.

Three pleaſures may be well baniſh'd out of cities: that is, common bowling allies, publike ſtage-plaies, and begging muſicke.

There be three kinde of people that be counted mad, (*viz.*) a rich VViddow that marrieth an unthrifty Courtier, an old man, to pleaſe his child, makes himſelfe a begger, and he that gives truſt to a drunken woman.

There bee three Plagues none worſe: that is, to marry a foole, to hire a ſlut, and to ſerve a knave.

Ariſtotle affirmeth, that a man can never

yeeld thanks enough unto three: our God, our parents, and our maſters.

Three vertues worthy commendations in a woman: Sobriety, ſilence, and chaſtity.

VVee ſalute three ſorts of people where we meete them: our betters of neceſſity, our equals of our owne will, our inferiours of our meere vertue.

Gluttony doth hurt many three manner of wayes: It maketh the body deformed: it breedeth infirmities, it cauſeth them to be inſatiable like brute beaſts.

Three kinds of people are jealous: ſuch as be evill of condition themſelves, ſuch as have faire wives, old men that marry young girles.

There are three trades which are chiefly maintained in moſt places: that is, Bakers, Brewers, and Butchers.

Three kinde of things can never be ſuppreſſed: that is, the pride of women, the folly of young Heires, and the Jealouſie of old wives.

Labour is good for three things: It occupieth the minde, and drives away fantaſies: it helpeth the body in digeſtion, & increaſeth the ſubſtance.

The Figure of Three.

It is not good to brag of three things: that thou haſt good wine, a faire wife, and plenty of money.

A man may doe three things without teaching: laugh, weepe, and ſleepe.

Men may lawfully fight in defence of theſe three: the Law, the Prince, and the Countrey.

FINIS.